

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An airbag module vibration gasket comprising:
a first surface that is attachable to an airbag inflator;
a second surface that is attachable to an airbag mounting plate, the first surface being disposed above the second surface; and
at least one foil strip having an inflator interface area and a mounting plate interface area, the inflator interface area being positionable between the first surface and the inflator, the mounting plate interface area being positionable between the second surface and the mounting plate.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the gasket is designed to encircle a bottom portion of the inflator.

Claim 4 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the first surface is attachable to the inflator via a first adhesive.

Claim 5 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 4 wherein the first adhesive is electrically non-conductive.

Claim 6 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 5 wherein the first adhesive is a contact adhesive.

Claim 7 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the second surface is attachable to the mounting plate via a second adhesive.

Claim 8 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 7 wherein the second adhesive is an electrically non-conductive adhesive.

Claim 9 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 8 wherein the second adhesive is a contact adhesive.

Claim 10 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the first surface is attachable to the inflator via a first adhesive and the second surface is attachable to the mounting plate via a second adhesive.

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A vibration gasket as in claim ~~11~~ 1 wherein the inflator interface area is bonded to the inflator via a first electrically conductive adhesive.

Claim 13 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 12 wherein the first electrically conductive adhesive is a contact adhesive.

Claim 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A vibration gasket as in claim ~~14~~ 1 wherein the mounting plate interface area is bonded to the mounting plate via a second electrically conductive adhesive.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A vibration gasket as in claim ~~14~~ 1 wherein the second electrically conductive adhesive is a contact adhesive.

Claim 17 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the inflator interface area is bonded to the inflator and the mounting plate interface area is bonded to the mounting plate.

Claim 18 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the foil strip wraps around a portion of the gasket.

Claim 19 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the foil strip is made of an electrically conductive metal.

Claim 20 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the foil strip operates to electrically ground the inflator.

Claim 21 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the gasket is made of a cellular urethane material.

Claim 22 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 1 wherein the gasket is made of a elastomeric material.

Claim 23 (currently amended): An airbag module vibration gasket comprising:
a first surface that is attachable to an airbag inflator via the inflator flange;
a second surface that is attachable to an airbag mounting plate, the first surface being disposed above the second surface; and
at least one foil strip having an inflator interface area and a mounting plate interface area, the inflator interface area being positionable between the first surface and the inflator, the mounting plate interface area being positionable between the second surface and the mounting plate.

Claim 24 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the first surface is attached to the inflator flange via a first adhesive.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the second surface is attached to the mounting plate via a ~~first~~ second adhesive.

Claim 26 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the first surface is attached to the inflator flange via a first adhesive and the second surface is attached to the mounting plate via a second adhesive.

Claim 27 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 26 wherein the first adhesive and the second adhesive are electrically non-conductive.

Claim 28 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 26 wherein the first adhesive and the second adhesive are contact adhesives.

Claim 29 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the inflator interface area is attached to the inflator flange via a first electrically conductive adhesive.

Claim 30 (original): A vibration gasket is claim 29 wherein the first electrically conductive adhesive comprises one or more fibers.

Claim 31 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the mounting plate interface area is attached to the mounting plate via a second electrically conductive adhesive.

Claim 32 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 31 wherein the second electrically conductive adhesive comprises one or more fibers.

Claim 33 (currently amended): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the at least one foil strip ~~strips~~ operate to electrically ground the inflator.

Claim 34 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the gasket is made of a cellular urethane material.

Claim 35 (original): A vibration gasket as in claim 23 wherein the gasket includes two foil strips that wrap around a portion of the gasket.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): A method for dampening the vibration or movement of a steering wheel, the method comprising:

obtaining a vibration gasket, the vibration gasket comprising a first surface that is attachable to an inflator, a second surface that is attachable to a mounting plate, and at least one foil strip having an inflator interface area and a mounting plate interface area, the inflator interface area being positionable between the first surface and the inflator and the mounting plate interface area being positionable between the second surface and the mounting plate; and
installing the gasket onto the steering wheel.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): A method as claim 36 further comprising the step of tuning the gasket to provide optimal dampening of the steering wheel.

Claim 38 (withdrawn): A method as in claim 37 wherein the tuning step comprises adjusting the size of the gasket.

Claim 39 (withdrawn): A method as in claim 37 wherein the tuning step comprises adjusting the shape of the gasket.